



PRESS RELEASE



Hohensalzburg Fortress

A landmark in the center of Salzburg's historic city center

With over 900,000 visitors each year, Hohensalzburg Fortress is one of the most frequently visited attractions in Austria. In addition to interesting insight into the fortification's architectural history, the medieval castle and latter-day fortress offers a wonderful 360-degree panoramic view over the rooftops of Mozart's city and the surrounding mountains. The magnificent state rooms, the Reck Tower and evening concerts in an elegant ambiance attract the most visitors.

Construction of a fortress on the Festungsberg in Salzburg began in 1077 under Archbishop Gebhard von Helfenstein. The fortress was built to protect the principality from assault, although the Fortress never had to prove its defense function. It served to demonstrate the power of the archbishops and was rarely used as a place of refuge. Hohensalzburg Fortress was built in three stages, responding to the development of increasingly stronger long-range weapons. The fortress obtained its modern-day appearance in 1500 following extensive construction under Archbishop Leonard von Keutschach.

The biggest tourist attractions at Hohensalzburg Fortress: the state rooms and the Reck Tower

Hohensalzburg Fortress is one of the biggest European fortresses from the 11th century. The palace or "Hoher Stock" with its magnificent state rooms are especially impressive. The "Golden Chamber" with its elaborately decorated tiled stove is one of the most beautiful secular rooms in Europe. A tour of the state rooms, the Rainer Regiment Museum, the multimedia show, the bastions and the Marionette Museum is available all year round with the all-inclusive ticket. The highlights of the audio-guide tour include the torture chamber, the Reck Tower and the "Salzburg Bull," a mechanical organ, whose first and last chords remind listeners of a bellowing bull. Back in 1500 it was a signal to the population when to rise and go to sleep. The valuable historical instrument still sounds several times a day. The audio-guide is available in eight languages. The offer is rounded off by themed tours ("The Hidden Corners") and children's tours.

Further information on Hohensalzburg Fortress

The way to the fortress is an experience in itself: visitors cross the loveliest squares in Salzburg's historic city center on the way to the funicular in Festungsgasse, which leaves every 10 minutes. The fortress can be reached on foot in approximately 30 minutes: through the arched "Sperrbogen" gates, the "Mayor's Gate" and the steep outer courtyard and into the fortress. Pampering delicacies are served in the Fortress Restaurant and the Fortress Tavern. The ever-popular Fortress Concerts are held in the State Room.

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PR contact:

Ms. Birgit Meixner, Salzburger Burgen und Schlösser Betriebsführung
Mönchsberg 34, 5020 Salzburg
Tel: +43 (0) 662 / 84 61 81, Fax: +43 (0) 662 / 84 61 85
E-mail: sbsb.meixner@aon.at, Internet: www.salzburg-burgen.at

Hohensalzburg Fortress:

Mönchsberg 34, 5020 Salzburg
Open daily in May/June/July/August/September from 10 AM – 7 PM
Jan/Feb/March/April/October/November/December from 10 AM – 5 PM